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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: )

Frederick W. Ryan, Jr.



) Attorney Docket No.: F-173

Serial No.: 09/626,954

) Group Art Unit: 2766

Filed: July 27, 2000

) Date: October 31, 2000

For: POSTAGE METERING SYSTEM FOR USE WITH BUSINESS REPLY  
MAIL

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

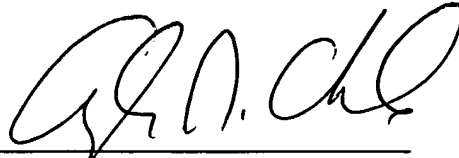
While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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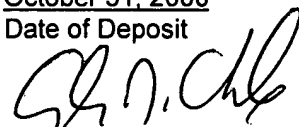
Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
One copy of each of the references

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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